E-ticketing

3488. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways is thinking of introducing E-ticketing print-a-ticket to travel in some of the trains from 5th November, 2005;

(b) if so, the details of this innovative scheme; and

(c) how this would help the passengers to get tickets very easily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) E-ticketing scheme was launched initially on two New Delhi-Kalka Shatabdi Express trains w.e.f. 12.8.2005 which was further extended to certain Rajdhani/Shatabdi Express trains w.e.f. 05/11/2005. The scheme has now been extended on all Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Janshatabdi Express and all other super fast trains w.e.f. 1.1.2006.

(b) and (c) In E-ticketing scheme there is no physical ticket. Passengers get their reservations booked through Internet while sitting at home and occupy their reserved seats on the basis of computer-generated slip taken out from their own computer alongwith the Identity Card. This saves them from the botheration of going to reservation centres for booking the ticket or delivery of physical ticket as is done in case of Internet booking. In addition, the booking for E-ticketing is open upto the chart preparation time while internet ticket booking stops 2/3 days in advance of train departure.

Janshatabdi between Mumbai and Ratnagiri

†3489. SHRI VASANT CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether people of Ratnagiri and Savantavari in the Konkan region have put a demand before Government to start a fast train like Janshatabdi only between Mumbai and Ratnagiri;

(b) whether Government will start any new train only for the people of Ratnagiri and what will be the weekly schedule of this train; and

(c) if so, by when this new train is likely to be started?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.